



Corporate

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December 2, 2009

Dear Members of the CDC HICPAC Committee,

The proposed draft document *Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections* brings many concerns to clinicians.

Lines 483-486

Use a chlorhexidine-impregnated sponge dressing for temporary short-term catheters in patients older than 2 months of age, if the CRBSI rate is higher than the institutional goal, despite adherence to basic CRBSI prevention measures, including education and training, use of chlorhexidine for skin antisepsis, and MSB [22, 156-158]. Category 1B

This guideline addresses the use of a chlorhexidine-impregnated sponge dressing with short-term catheters, given the research study findings specific to this application, however, there is no recommendation offered for the product use with regards to long-term catheters, nor does it allow for the use of a silver patch. Algidex Ag+ IV Patch by DeRoyal has been proven to be a safe alternative. Silver is a safe antimicrobial barrier as evidenced in the literature. There are patient populations that chlorhexidine based products are not a safe choice and clinicians should be able to choose safe alternatives depending on the care setting, patients allergy history or pre-disposition to allergic reactions, age and skin integrity.

The alternate site market (home infusion and home health). Expert clinicians should be provided the opportunity to determine which product is safe and effective with relation to the current patient population based on evidence. .

I have attached a list of references for review with regard to the above statements.

Thank you for the opportunity to allow comment. We strive to provide the best patient care based on the best practice standards and feel that alternatives should be available to provide quality, safe-effective care.

Respectfully Submitted:

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